

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of:

§ HANNIGAN, R.,
et al

§ Serial No.: 09/937,937

§ Filed: October 2, 2001

For: **VACUUM ASSISTED
CLOSURE SYSTEM WITH
HEATING AND COOLING
PROVISION**

Examiner: LEWIS, Kim M.

Group Art Unit: 3743

Attorney Docket No.: VAC.482.US

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

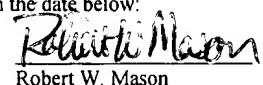
CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

37 C.F.R. § 1.8

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01/11/2005

Date


Robert W. Mason

Dear Sir or Madam:

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.97
First Supplemental Statement

In compliance with the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.56, Applicants are submitting herewith a Form PTO/SB/08A and a copy of the references listed thereon. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months after the filing date of the application. This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance with 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c)(2). The Commissioner is authorized to charge the required fees to deposit account no. 500326.

Applicants respectfully request full and proper consideration of the listed information during examination of the application, and that the listed information be printed on any patent that issues therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,



Robert W. Mason
Reg. No. 42,848
Attorney for the Applicant

Telephone: (210) 255-6271

Facsimile: (210) 255-6969

Enclosures:

Fee Transmittal
Transmittal Form;
Form PTO/SB/08A (6 pages)
Copies of non-patent references and foreign patents listed on Form PTO/SB/08A
Return Receipt Postcard

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2005

Effective 10/01/2004. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT **(\$)** 180.00

Complete if Known

Application Number	09/937,937
Filing Date	2 October 2001
First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, R., et al
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Art Unit	3743
Attorney Docket No.	VAC.482.US

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

Check Credit card Money Order Other None

Deposit Account:

Deposit Account Number **500326**
Deposit Account Name **Kinetic Concepts Inc.**

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

Charge fee(s) indicated below Credit any overpayments
 Charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s)
 Charge fee(s) indicated below, except for the filing fee to the above-identified deposit account.

FEE CALCULATION**1. BASIC FILING FEE**

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1001	790	2001	395	Utility filing fee	
1002	350	2002	175	Design filing fee	
1003	550	2003	275	Plant filing fee	
1004	790	2004	395	Reissue filing fee	
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee	
SUBTOTAL (1) (\$)					

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
	-20** =	X	=
Independent Claims	- 3** =	X	=
Multiple Dependent			

Large Entity	Small Entity	Fee Description
Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	
1202 18	2202 9	Claims in excess of 20
1201 88	2201 44	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203 300	2203 150	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204 88	2204 44	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205 18	2205 9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent
SUBTOTAL (2) (\$)		

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

3. ADDITIONAL FEES

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code (\$)	Fee Code (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051 130	2051 65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052 50	2052 25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053 130	1053 130	Non-English specification	
1812 2,520	1812 2,520	For filing a request for ex parte reexamination	
1804 920*	1804 920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805 1,840*	1805 1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251 110	2251 55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252 430	2252 215	Extension for reply within second month	
1253 980	2253 490	Extension for reply within third month	
1254 1,530	2254 765	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255 2,080	2255 1,040	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401 340	2401 170	Notice of Appeal	
1402 340	2402 170	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403 300	2403 150	Request for oral hearing	
1451 1,510	1451 1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452 110	2452 55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453 1,370	2453 685	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501 1,370	2501 685	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502 490	2502 245	Design issue fee	
1503 660	2503 330	Plant issue fee	
1460 130	1460 130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807 50	1807 50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17(q)	
1806 180	1806 180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021 40	8021 40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809 790	2809 395	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR 1.129(a))	
1810 790	2810 395	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR 1.129(b))	
1801 790	2801 395	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802 900	1802 900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	
Other fee (specify)			
*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid			
SUBTOTAL (3) (\$)			180.00

(Complete if applicable)

Name (Print/Type)	Robert W. Mason	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	42,848	Telephone	210-255 6271
Signature	<i>Robert W. Mason</i>			Date	01/11/2005

WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.17 and 1.27. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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TRANSMITTAL
FORM

(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)

Total Number of Pages in This Submission

Application Number	09/937,937
Filing Date	2 October 2001
First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, R., et al
Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Total Number of Pages in This Submission	133
Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US

ENCLOSURES (Check all that apply)		
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached <input type="checkbox"/> Amendment/Reply <input type="checkbox"/> After Final <input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request <input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement <input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application <input type="checkbox"/> Reply to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53	<input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) <input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers <input type="checkbox"/> Petition <input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application <input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation <input type="checkbox"/> Change of Correspondence Address <input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer <input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund <input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Landscape Table on CD	<input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to TC <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences <input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to TC (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief) <input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information <input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below): Copies of non-patent references and foreign patents; Disclosure Statement Under 37 CFR Section 1.97 (First Supplemental); and Acknowledgment postcard
Remarks		

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY, OR AGENT

Firm Name	Kinetic Concepts, Inc.		
Signature			
Printed name	Robert W. Mason,		
Date	11 January 2005	Reg. No.	42,848

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Signature			
Typed or printed name	Robert W. Mason	Date	11 January 2005

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Complete if Known**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE
STATEMENT BY APPLICANT**

(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 1 of 6

Application Number	09/937,937
Filing Date	October 2, 2001
First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, et al
Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US 1355846	10-19-1920	Rannells	Figs. 1,2
		US 2547758	04-03-1951	Keeling	Fig. 2
		US 2632443	03-24-1953	Lesher	Figs. 1-3
		US 2682873	07-06-1954	Evans et al.	Fig. 2
		US 2969057	01-24-1961	Simmons	Figs. 1-6
		US 3367332	02-06-1968	Groves	Figs. 1, 4
		US 3648692	03-14-1972	Wheeler	Fig. 1
		US 3682180	08-08-1972	McFarlane	Fig. 3
		US 3826254	07-30-1974	Mellor	Fig. 2
		US 4080970	03-28-1978	Miller	Column 1 - Column 3
		US 4096853	06-27-1978	Weigand	Column 3, Lines 2-20
		US 4139004	02-13-1979	Gonzalez	Column 4
		US 4165748	08-28-1979	Johnson	Fig. 2
		US 4245630	01-20-1981	Lloyd et al.	Fig. 1
		US 4261363	04-14-1981	Russo	Figs. 1, 4, 5
		US 4275721	06-30-1981	Olson	Fig. 1
		US 4284079	08-18-1981	Adair	Fig. 3
		US 4297995	11-03-1981	Golub	Fig. 1
		US 4333468	06-08-1982	Geist	Fig. 2, 4

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				
		AU-550575-A1	08-26-1982	Wright	P.4, lines 7-10	
		EP-0100148	02- 1984	Naylor, et al	Abstract	

Examiner Signature		Date Considered
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(Use as many sheets as necessary)

Sheet 2 of 6

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First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, et al
Art Unit	3743
Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US

U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS					
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 4373519	02-15-1983	Errede et al.	Column 4
		US-			
		US- 4392853	07-12-1983	Muto	Fig. 11
		US- 4392858	07-12-1983	George et al.	Column 3, Lines 5-58
		US- 4419097	12-06-1983	Rowland	Fig. 8
		US- 4475909	10-09-1984	Eisenberg	Figs. 1, 3, 6
		US- 4480638	11-06-1984	Schmid	Figs. 2, 3
		US- 4525166	06-25-1985	Leclerc	Column 5-6
		US- 4525374	06-25-1985	Vailancourt	
		US- 4540412	09-10-1985	Van Overloop	Column 2
		US- 4543100	09-24-1985	Brodsky	Fig. 4
		US- 4551139	11-05-1985	Plaas et al.	C1, L 66 - C2, L68
		US- 4569348	02-11-1986	Hasslinger	C2, L50 - C4, L 27
		US- 4605399	08-12-1986	Weston et al.	Fig. 3
		US- 4608041	08-26-1986	Nielson	
		US- 4640688	02-03-1987	Hauser	Fig. 2
		US- 4655754	04-07-1987	Richmond et al.	Column 1, Line 39-44
		US- 4733659	03-29-1988	Edenbaum et al.	Fig. 1
		US- 4743232	05-10-1988	Kruger	Figs. 2-4

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Sheet 3 of 6

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U. S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		US- 4787888	11-29-1988	Fox	Figs. 1, 4-6
		US- 4826949	05-02-1989	Richmond et al.	Column 1
		US- 4838883	06-13-1989	Matsuura	Fig. 7
		US- 4840187	06-20-1989	Brazier	Column 2, Line 34-42
		US- 4863449	09-05-1989	Theriault et al.	Column 3, Line 45-68
		US- 4872450	10-10-1989	Austad	Column 3-4
		US- 4878901	11-07-1989	Sachse	
		US- 4897081	01-30-1990	Poirier et al.	C3, L25 - C4
		US- 4906233	03-06-1990	Moriuchi et al.	Abstract
		US- 4906240	03-06-1990	Reed et al.	Fig. 1
		US- 4919654	04-24-1990	Kalt	Column 3, Line 8-39
		US- 4941882	07-17-1990	Ward et al.	Column 3, Line 38-64
		US- 4953565	09-04-1990	Tachibana et al.	Fig. 1
		US- 4969880	11-13-1990	Zamierowski	Figs. 1-10
		US- 4985019	01-15-1991	Michelson	Column 1, Line 47-58
		US- 5037397	08-06-1991	Kalt et al.	Figs. 1, 2, 4, 6
		US- 5100396	03-31-1992	Zamierowski	Figs. 1-10
		US-			
		US- 5167613	12-01-1992	Karami et al.	Figs. 4-5

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

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Examiner Signature	Date Considered

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Sheet 4

of 6

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		Number-Kind Code ² (if known)			
		US- 5176663	01-05-1993	Svedman et al	C1, L55 - C2, L8
		US- 5232453	08-03-1993	Plass et al.	Fig. 2, 5
		US- 5261893	11-16-1993	Zamierowski	Figs. 1, 13, 16
		US- 5298015	03-29-1994	Komatsuzaki et al.	Abstract
		US- 5344415	09-06-1994	Debusk et al.	Column 2, Line 9 -42
		US- 5358494	10-25-1994	Svedman	Column 2, Line 34-47
		US- 5527293	06-18-1996	Zamierowski	C11, L 62 - C12, L37
		US- 5556375	09-17-1996	Ewall	C3, L62 - C4, L65
		US- 5607388	03-04-1997	Ewall	Column 3-4
		US- 4636643	06-10-1997	Argenta et al.	C6, Lines 18 - 64
		US- 5645081	07-08-1997	Argenta et al.	C4, L28 - C5, L22
		US- 6071267	06-06-2000	Zamierowski	Figs. 1-3
		US- 6135116	10-24-2000	Vogel et al.	Column 9
		US- 20020115951 A1	08-22-2002	Norstream et al.	
		US- 20020120185 A1	08-29-2002	Johnson	Fig. 3
		US- 20020143286 A1	10-03-2002	Tumey	Paragragh 26
		US- 6488643	12-03-2002	Tumey et al.	
		US- 6493568	12-10-2002	Bell, et al.	
		US- 4,233,969	11-18-1980	Lock, et al.	C2, Lines 25 - 53

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document	Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages Or Relevant Figures Appear	T ⁶
		Country Code ³ -Number ⁴ -Kind Code ⁵ (if known)				

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This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 2 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, Washington, DC 20231. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231.

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Substitute for form 1449/PTO				Complete if Known	
				Application Number	09/937,937
				Filing Date	October 2, 2001
				First Named Inventor	HANNIGAN, et al
				Art Unit	3743
				Examiner Name	LEWIS, Kim M.
Sheet	5	of	6	Attorney Docket Number	VAC.482.US

OTHER PRIOR ART-NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ²
		LOUIS C. ARGENTA, MD and MICHAEL J. MORYKwas, PhD; Vacuum-Assisted Closure: A New Method for Wound Control and Treatment: Clinical Experience; Annals of Plastic Surgery, Volume 38, Number 6, June 1997, pages 563-577; Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Inc., Philadelphia, PA, U.S.A.	
		SUSAN MENDEZ-EASTMAN, RN; When Wounds Won't Heal, RN January 1998, Volume 61(1); Medical Economics Company, Inc., Montvale, NJ, USA.	
		JAMES H. BLACKBURN II, MD et al.; Negative-Pressure Dressings as a Bolster for Skin Grafts; Annals of Plastic Surgery, Volume 40, Number 5, May 1998, pages 453-457; Lippincott Williams & Wilkins, Inc., Philadelphia, PA, USA	
		JOHN MASTERS; Letter to the editor; British Journal of Plastic Surgery, 1998, Volume 51(3), page 267; Elsevier Science/The British Association of Plastic Surgeons, United Kingdom	
		S.E. GREER, et al.; The Use of Subatmospheric Pressure Dressing Therapy to Close Lymphocutaneous Fistulas of the Groin; British Journal of Plastic Surgery (2000), 53, pg 484-487, Article No. BJPS2000.3360, Elsevier Science/The British Association of Plastic Surgeons, United Kingdom	
		GEORGE V. LETSOU, M.D., et al.; Stimulation of Adenylate Cyclase Activity in Cultured Endothelial Cells Subjected to Cyclic Stretch; Journal of Cardiovascular Surgery, 31, 1990, pages 634-639; Edizioni Minerva Medica, Torino, Italy	

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		KOSTYUCHENOK, B.M, et al. ;Vacuum Treatment in the Surgical Management of Purulent Wounds; Vestnik Khirurgi, September 1986	
		DAVYDOV, Yu. A., et al; Vacuum Therapy in the Treatment of Purulent Lactation Mastitis; Vestnik Khirurgi, September 1986	
		YUSUPOV, Yu. N., et al; Active Wound Drainage, Vestnik Khirurgi, Vol. 138, Issue 4, 1987.	
		DAVYDOV, Yu. A., et al; Bacteriological and Cytological Assessment of Vacuum Therapy of Purulent Wounds; Vestnik Khirurgi, October 1988	
		DAVYDOV, Yu. A., et al; Concepts For the Clinical-Biological Management of the Wound Process in the Treatment of Purulent Wounds by Means of Vacuum Therapy; Vestnik Khirurgi	

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